

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY VICTORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 472

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

STATE

UNCLAS VICTORIA 425

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, US,SE

SUBJECT: PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS

1. AMBASSADOR PRESENTED HIS CREDENTIALS TO PRESIDENT RENE AS SCHEDULED AT 9:00 AM JULY 19, 1977. FOLLOWING ARE TEXTS OF AMBASSADOR'S PRESENTATION SPEECH AND REMARKS READ BY PRESIDENT RENE:

BEGIN QUOTE:

MR. PRESIDENT: IT IS WITH A DEEP SENSE OF HONOR AND PERSONAL PLEASURE THAT I MEET WITH YOU TODAY TO PRESENT MY CREDENTIALS AS AMERICAN AMBASSADOR TO THE REPUBLIC OF SEYCHELLES. THOUGH AN INDEPENDENT COUNTRY FOR LITTLE LONGER THAN ONE YEAR, SEYCHELLES HAS BECOME A FULL AND ACTIVE PARTICIPANT IN WORLD AFFAIRS. MULTILATERALLY, IN THIS BRIEF PERIOD, YOUR COUNTRY HAS JOINED THE UNITED NATIONS, THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY, THE COMMONWEALTH, THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT AND SEVERAL SPECIALIZED UN AGENCIES. BILATERALLY, THE SEYCHELLES GOVERNMENT HAS ENTERED INTO DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH MANY COUNTRIES AND IS NOW HOST TO FIVE RESIDENT MISSIONS.

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THE UNITED STATES RECOGNIZED LONG BEFORE INDEPENDENCE THE DESIREABILITY, INDEED THE REQUIREMENT, FOR A RESIDENT MISSION IN SEYCHELLES. THE UNITED STATES HAS ENJOYED A CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE SEYCHELLES AND THE SEYCHELLOIS PEOPLE SINCE THE EARLY 1960'S WHEN OUR TRACKING STATION WAS CONSTRUCTED. SINCE THEN, PROBABLY SEVERAL THOUSAND AMERICANS HAVE HAD ASSIGNMENTS IN SEYCHELLES AND HAVE RETURNED TO OUR SHORES WITH ACCOUNTS OF

THE BREATHTAKING BEAUTY OF YOUR ISLANDS AND THE WARMTH AND HOSPITALITY SO SINCERELY PROJECTED BY THE SEYCHELLOIS PEOPLE. HAPPILY FOR US, THIS EXCHANGE OF CULTURAL EXPERIENCE AND KNOWLEDGE HAS NOT BEEN ENTIRELY ONE-SIDED FOR I NOTE WITH PLEASURE THAT YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, AND MANY DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS OF YOUR GOVERNMENT HAVE HAD THE OCCASION TO VISIT THE UNITED STATES AS GUESTS OF MY GOVERNMENT.

IN ADDITION TO PROGRAMS IN THE CULTURAL FIELD, THE UNITED STATES HAS HAD A NUTRITION PROGRAM IN THE SEYCHELLES FOR MORE THAN A DECADE, EMBARKED SEVERAL YEARS AGO ON A SERIES OF SELF-HELP SCHEMES AND HAS PROVIDED EXPERTISE AND DEDICATION IN THE FORM OF ENTHUSIASTIC PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS. I LOOK FORWARD TO DOING WHATEVER I CAN TO ENSURE THAT THE SPECIAL AND FRIENDLY RELATIONS WHICH HAVE EXISTED BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES AND OUR TWO PEOPLES WILL CONTINUE TO FLOURISH IN THE YEARS AHEAD.

FOR MYSELF AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES I OFFER BEST WISHES TO YOU, YOUR GOVERNMENT AND YOUR PEOPLE FOR NATIONAL HEALTH AND PROSPERITY AND FOR SUCCESS IN ACHIEVING THE LAUDABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS WHICH YOU HAVE SET FORTH. MR. PRESIDENT, IT IS MY PLEASURE TO PRESENT TO YOU MY CREDENTIALS AS AMERICAN AMBASSADOR TO THE SEYCHELLES.

END QUOTE.

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2. TEXT OF PRESIDENT RENE'S REMARKS IS AS FOLLOWS:

BEGIN QUOTE:

MR. AMBASSADOR,

MAY I, ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT OF SEYCHELLES, WELCOME YOU ON YOUR FIRST VISIT TO OUR COUNTRY SINCE ASSUMING THE OFFICE OF AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED STATES WITH OVERALL RESPONSIBILITY FOR SEYCHELLES. YOUR COUNTRY ALREADY SHARES WITH US A RELATIVELY SHORT BUT FRIENDLY PERIOD OF ASSOCIATION AND I FEEL CERTAIN THAT THIS FRIENDSHIP WILL CONTINUE TO GROW DURING YOUR TENURE OF OFFICE.

THE PEOPLE OF SEYCHELLES ARE A PEACE LOVING NATION. YOU WILL, NO DOUBT, BE AWARE THAT IT IS THE INTENTION OF MY GOVERNMENT TO MAINTAIN A POLICY OF NON-ALIGNMENT AND WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THIS POLICY ATTEMPT TO ENSURE THAT NO CONFLICTS ARE PERMITTED TO DEVELOP IN OUR AREA. WE WILL CONSEQUENTLY STRIVE UNCEASINGLY TO MAKE THE INDIAN OCEAN A ZONE OF PEACE AND I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT YOUR COUNTRY WILL ASSIST US IN THE REALISATION OF THIS OBJECTIVE.

MR. AMBASSADOR, I HOPE THAT YOUR TERM OF OFFICE WILL BE
A PLEASANT ONE AND I LOOK FORWARD TO A LONG AND FRUITFUL
PERIOD OF FRIENDLY COLLARBORATION WITH YOU.

END QUOTE.
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